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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Customer No.: 26308 *Patent*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Machold et al. Docket No.: 9542.18428

Serial No.: 10/677,104 Examiner: David A. Izquierdo

Filed: 1 October 2003 Group Art Unit: 3738

Title: Devices, Systems, and Methods for Reshaping a Heart Valve Annulus

RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT TO ELECT SPECIES AND WITHDRAWAL OF CLAIMS DIRECTED TO NON-ELECTED SPECIES

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Response responds to the Office Action mailed March 16, 2006, for which a shortened response period of one month was set.

An automatic five month extension of time, up to and including September 16, 2006 (which falls on a Saturday) is respectfully requested.

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